

# SENATE BILL REPORT

## SB 6394

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As of February 1, 2012

**Title:** An act relating to requiring transparency for patients regarding training and qualifications of health care professionals.

**Brief Description:** Requiring transparency for patients regarding training and qualifications of health care professionals.

**Sponsors:** Senator Keiser.

**Brief History:**

**Committee Activity:** Health & Long-Term Care: 2/02/12.

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### SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & LONG-TERM CARE

**Staff:** Veronica Warnock (786-7490)

**Background:** The Uniform Disciplinary Act governs the licensure and discipline procedures for health and health-related professionals and businesses.

**Summary of Bill:** A new section is added to the Uniform Disciplinary Act requiring a health care professional that holds a doctorate degree to identify the type of license, registration, or certification they hold in all advertisements containing their name. Such advertisements must also be free from deceptive or misleading information. The type of credential held can be identified by stating the professional's full title or by use of an approved suffix. These health care professionals are also responsible for ensuring that the manner in which they refer to themselves is consistent with their training and qualifications so as to avoid any potential confusion by patients about their level of training and qualifications or their scope of practice. Failure to comply with these requirements is considered unprofessional conduct and subjects these health care professionals to sanctions as provided in the Uniform Disciplinary Act.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Available.

**Committee/Commission/Task Force Created:** No.

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*This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.*

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect on January 1, 2013.